July 30, 1967

Mr. William R. Martin
Counselor At Law
International Trade Mart
New Orleans, Louisiana 70113

Dear Mr. Martin:

I have received your letter dated July 25, in which you first advise to a lack of good manners on my part and then proceed to ridicule the substance of one of my letters as "presumptuous nonsense."

Regarding the former, permit me to remind you of your promise to mail the carbon copies of my petition and its supporting memorandum to my sister before you departed Springfield on June 7, and the fact that you failed to do so. As pertains to your reasons — which are really quite academic — for the ensuing month-and-a-half delay in mailing these documents, let me also remind you of our accord that they would not be typed up since they were not to be filed in court. This, by itself, makes your explanation sound rather empty, to say the least.

Concerning the latter reference, that is, your given declaration of my "presumptuous nonsense," if you are indeed ~~[illegible]~~ referring to the balance of the letter I wrote you on July 16, then I can but say I'm sure you would not have judged the legal steps I contemplated to be either presumptuous or nonsense, had they been initiated. However, if you are referring to the communication sent your associate, also dated July 16, then I would at this time offer an apology. For I have since been apprised of information

which not only convinces me there was no valid basis for the conjecture cited therein, but also that you have never acted in an operational capacity with that particular company.

Still, it is unfortunate that you could not actually exercise the restraint to which you alluded in the closing paragraph of your letter, and appreciate that any individual might jump to an erroneous conclusion when he is restricted to a minimum of data and a maximum of suspicion in evaluating a given situation. I say "unfortunate", because had you displayed more tolerance in this matter, especially in view of your own shortcomings, I'm sure I would have eventually cooled off and seen to it that the physical evidence you sought at Los Angeles was delivered to your hands personally, possibly within a period of weeks. I would have done this to show that I too can be trusted to keep my end of a bargain; not that you have done so in all respects.

Finally, in terminating our business and knotty association, I am going to venture that the future will show you people need me much more than I need you; that D.F. and his friends were nothing but peripheral characters, always expendable; who didn't really know the scheme of things, and couldn't tell you anything even if they were around to do so, which they are not; and that while you people may have set sail in the right direction you are now (from what I hear) about 180 degrees off course . . . but then, that is how it was meant to be.

Thanks for nothing,

Richard C. Hegel 73276

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